Dividend and profit from public sector units

2475. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the estimated dividend and profits from public sector units;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a divergence of opinion between the Ministry of Finance and the Ninth Finance Commission in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) For 1989-90, the Central Budget has assumed receipts by way of dividends and profits from public sector units, etc. at Rs. 1135.55 crores, while the estimate adopted by the Ninth Finance Commission was Rs. 2133 crores under this Head.

The Finance Commission has assumed a normative rate of return of 6 per cent on the Centre's investments in public sector units, excluding those under construction.

Appraisal of Flowers and Vegetables project by NABARD

2476. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has sent the 100 per cent Export oriented flowers and vegetables project to NABARD for appraisal;

(b) since how long the proposal is pending before NABARD;

(c) whether NABARD has the expertise in this regard; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that one 100 per cent Export Oriented Flowers and Vegetables project was received by them in May, 1988 from Canara Bank. The proposal was appraised by an Expert Committee which came to the conclusion that the project was not financially viable.

Wadhwa Committee on alleged police Excesses during last year's lawyers' strike

2477. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Wadhwa Committee, which is inquiring into the alleged police excesses during last year's lawyers' strike is unable to act as its term had expired on 22nd February, 1989 and that its term has not been extended so far; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not extending its term so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The tenure of the Wadhwa Committee has been extended for a further period of three months w.e.f. 22.2.1989

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Zonal Councils

2478. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up Zonal Councils for deliberations on common issues of the region;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have held meetings of the Zonal Council during 1988-89; and

(d) if so, what are the details of deliberations and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Five Zonal Councils have been set up under the provisions of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956. These are:

(i) he Northern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh;

(ii) The Central Zonal Council, comprising the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh;

(iii) the Eastern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Sikkim;

(iv) The Western Zonal Council, comprising the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and the Union Territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli;

(v) the Southern Zonal Council, comprising the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and the Union Territory of Pondicherry;

Each of these Councils has Ministers from each State including the Chief Minister and not more than two representatives of a Union Territory as Members and two officers from each State including the Chief Secretary, and an officer from the Planning Commission as Adviser. The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils. The Zonal Councils are advisory bodies and may discuss any matter in which some or all of the States or the Union and one or more of the States represented in that Council have a common interest.

During the year 1988-89, a meeting of the Southern Zonal Council was held in June, 1988. The subjects discussed mainly related to construction of roads and railways, commerce, taxation, coal supply, housing, and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A copy of the proceedings of the meeting was sent to Parliamentary Library in November, 1988. The recommendations of the Council have been reffered to the Governments of the member-States| U.T. and concerned Union Ministries for compliance and follow-up action.

Scheduled Caste|Scheduled Tribe Officers in RBI

2479. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA:
SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of Scheduled Castes|Scheduled Tribe Officers in the Reserve Bank of India in the categories of Staff Officer Grade 'A'; Staff Officer Grade 'A' (Supervisor Dispensaries); Grade 'B' Officers and Grade 'C' Officers and above;

(b) whether the percentage of officers belonging to SC/ST categories in the Reserve Bank is less than the percentage of reservation prescribed by Government and if so, what steps the Reserve Bank is taking to clear the backlog of these categories; and

(c) how Government propose to make-up the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the representation of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Officers in the Bank (From Grade 'A'